



Maynard Jackson
Atlanta's first black mayor dies at 65
Page 7

**Liberians protest for
peace at home**
Page 3

**3rd Annual BET
Awards**
Page 1



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As crime rate comes down, prison rates for Blacks go up

By Artelia C. Covington
NNPA National Correspondent

WASHINGTON (NNPA)—While the crime rate nationally has decreased, the rate of incarcerations has increased, especially for people of color, according to a recent report by the Sentencing Project. According to research by the Washington, D.C.-based group that studies criminal justice issues, the United States places more people behind bars than any other nation. Citing data from the Justice Department, the report found that a Black male born today has a 29 percent chance of spending time in state or federal prison during his lifetime. Today, one out of eight Black males between the ages of 25 and 29 are currently in prison or jail.

"We did this report at the request of the [U.S.] Civil Rights Commission to look at issues of race and incarceration, especially here in the United States," says Marc Mauer, executive director of the Sentencing Project. "We've reached a point where imprisonment is being done at a world-record pace in the

United States, and it's having a dramatic effect on communities of color."

Ironically, the FBI recently released preliminary U.S. crime statistics showing that the overall reported crime rate decreased by 0.2 percent over the last year. The data is based on an index of seven crimes: murder, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny and motor vehicle theft.

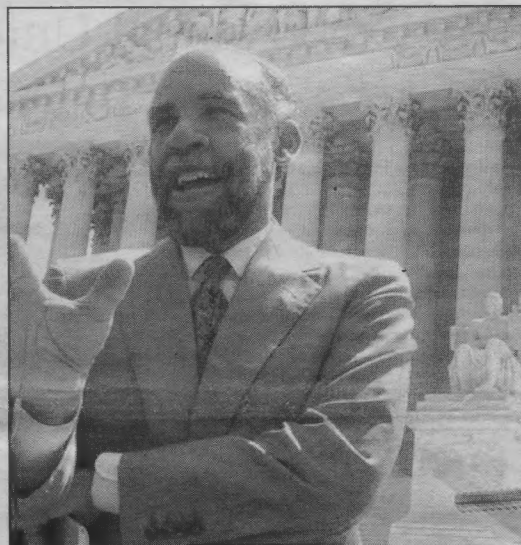
Darrell Steffensmeier, a professor of sociology and crime at Penn State University, says that Black males all over the country are being victimized more so than their Hispanic and Caucasian counterparts because the nation as a whole has changed its approach to criminal justice. "In a lot of cases Blacks males have a higher incident rate than White males do, but it depends specifically on the crime," says Steffensmeier. "And what is happening is that Black males are being kept in jail longer for less serious crimes than White males are. Steffensmeier adds that the reason for this

See PRISON on page 10

HIGH COURT UPHOLDS AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

By George E. Curry
NNPA

WASHINGTON (NNPA)—In a mixed ruling involving a pair of lawsuits brought against the University of Michigan, the United States Supreme Court on Monday upheld the concept of affirmative action as long as programs are not designed too broadly. "The court has sent a clear message — racism, ongoing discrimination and other barriers to equal opportunity can be addressed by specific affirmative action programs that take race into consideration," says Wade Henderson, executive director of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, a federation of more than 180 civil and human rights groups. In what appeared to be a mixed verdict, the court upheld the University of Michigan's law school admissions program by a vote of 5-4 but rejected an undergraduate admissions program that awards 20 points to racial and ethnic groups that are underrepresented on campus. "This is a victory today," says Ted Shaw, associate director-counsel of



John Payton, Attorney for the University of Michigan

the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund (LDF), which represented African-American and Latino students in the case. "This is one of those days that reaffirms our

faith in our system of laws."

Monday's rulings were the court's most important affirmative action decision since 1978,

See HIGH COURT on page 12

Conservatives seek to circumvent Pro-Affirmative Action ruling

By Hazel Trice Edney
NNPA Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON (NNPA)—Ward Connerly, the Black conservative who spearheaded the Proposition 209 anti-affirmative action ballot initiative in California seven years ago, says he may try the same thing in Michigan.

"Since neither the judiciary nor the Congress are going to be disposed to solve this problem, then we will be looking at other states to carry the battle there and certainly the state of Michigan would be one that would be ripe for such an initiative," says Connerly, a member of the California Board of Regents and chairman of the Sacramento-based American Civil Rights Institute, a conservative group that opposes affirmative action.

Connerly remarks reflected disap-

pointment at the U.S. Supreme Court's decision to allow the consideration of race, among other factors, in an affirmative action case brought against the University of Michigan law school. On a 5-4 vote, the court upheld the legality of that program.

"I'm not looking at a lawsuit, I'm looking at a ballot initiative," Connerly says in an interview with the NNPA News Service. "Michigan is an initiative state. It would be like 209 to essentially restate the 1964 Civil Rights Act and say that the state shall not discriminate or grant preferential treatment to any individual on the basis of race, and so on."

See CONSERVATIVES on page 7



Ward Connerly

Clarence Thomas hides behind Frederick Douglass quotes

By Artelia C. Covington
NNPA National Correspondent

WASHINGTON (NNPA)—When one thinks about Frederick Douglass, the famous abolitionist, several familiar quotes come to mind.

"Without a struggle, there can be no progress," is one.

Another is: "Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will."

And there's this one, "If there is no struggle, there is no progress. Those who profess to favor freedom, and deprecate agitation, are the men who want crops without plowing up the ground, they want rain without thunder and lightning."

However, when U.S. Supreme Court Clarence Thomas selects a Douglass quote to use in his dissenting opinion in the University of Michigan's law school case that upheld affirmative action, he

chooses one that many African-Americans have never heard. And if they have heard it, they don't go around quoting it.

"The American people have always been anxious to know what they shall do with us," Douglass told abolitionists 140 years ago. "... I have had but one answer from the beginning. Do nothing with us!"

Douglass continued, "If the Negro cannot stand on his own legs, let him fall also. All I ask is give him a chance to stand on his own legs! Let him alone! Your interference is doing him positive injury."

In his opinion, Thomas wrote: "Like Douglass, I believe Blacks can achieve in every avenue of American life with-



Justice Thomas

See CLARENCE THOMAS on page 10

Cooper Sworn In As Essex County Utility Authority Commissioner

FAIRFIELD, NJ — The Essex County Utility Authority (ECUA), whose offices have relocated to 155 Passaic Avenue in Fairfield, held swearing in ceremonies at its regular monthly meeting for newly appointed commissioner Marshall E. Cooper (left) shown taking oath of office. Presenting the oath of office is the ECUA's Board Chairman Jerome St. John, Esq. A city resident, Cooper is a special assistant to Newark Mayor James serving as liaison to the municipal council and public agencies.



The 22nd Annual Union County Employee Golf Tournament

Active and retired employees of Union County gathered in the crisp early morning air waiting for the start of the 22nd Annual Union County Employee Golf Tournament, sponsored by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders. The popular annual event was held at Oak Ridge Golf Course, a facility of the county's Department of Parks and Recreation.

Showing that they're not all business...from the Union County Sheriff's Office Mike Schultz, Kenny Parries and Billy Sharkey watch as Jerry Green tests his skills on the links at Oak Ridge Golf Course during the Annual Employee Golf Tournament.



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Health Awareness Day — The Gladys Hillman Jones Middle School, in Newark, N.J. "A Healthy Tomorrow Begins Today" had a special annual Health Awareness Day. Guest Speaker was Ms. Trina Jones, a 23 yr. old woman from Newark, is speaking at schools about early detection of cervical cancer, and the known link of HPV (Human papilloma virus) in its transmission via sexual Activity. Trina is currently fighting aggressive cancer. Mrs. Peggy Cowan, from Fanwood, N.J. and the N.J. Physician's Resource Council, has partnered with Ms. Jones, to speak to the students to increase awareness of healthy choices and understanding of cervical cancer.



2003 Youth of the Year — Freeholder Chairwoman Deborah Scanlon (2nd from L) and Freeholder Lewis Mingo Jr. (2nd from R) honor Alena Minatee, 17, of Plainfield, (C) who was named the 2003 Youth of the Year by the Boys & Girls Club of Union County. They are flanked by Sal Dovi (L), Chief Operating Officer of the Boys & Girls Club of Union County, and Paul Casey, the Director of the Plainfield Boys & Girls Club. Alena attends Plainfield High School and Edison Job Corps. Alena also works as a volunteer with the Keystone Club, is a member the TriCounty Youth Task Force and has served as a SmartMoves Prevention Education Teacher. She plans on attending college and majoring in early childhood education and prelaw.



MAPS honors — Middlesex County College honored graduates of the Minority Access to the Professions Scholars (MAPS) program at a dinner in May. MAPS is a mentoring and leadership development program for minority students at the College. First row, from left to right: Jacqueline Myles Vargas (Somerset), Amarilis Peralta (Hopelawn), Adrian Marie Diaz (North Brunswick), Chigozie Ibeh (Colonia), Mansur President (Keasbey), John Dunning (director), Bernadette Roa (Administrative Assistant), Lori Johnson, (MAPS program coordinator), Mariam Rodriguez (Parlin), Dean Juana Lewis, Yvonne White (Woodbridge), and Eric Charles (South Amboy).

Nation/World BRIEFS

CHIEF MOOSE RESIGNS TO PURSUE SNIPER BOOK, FILM DEALS

(Special to the NNPA)- Police Chief Charles A. Moose, the Montgomery County, Md., lawman who gained recognition during the beltway sniper manhunt that paralyzed the nation's capitol, has resigned to avoid the local ethics board which bars him from taking advantage of book and movie deals.

Moose will now write his book, "Three Weeks in October: The Manhunt for the Serial Sniper," due to be published this September, and earn a reported \$170,000. He also signed a TV movie deal and has already received \$4,250 to consult for the film.

During his testimony at a hearing, Moose described the money he would earn as a "once-in-a-lifetime" opportunity and "my good fortune."

JUDGE RELEASES 12 MORE FALSELY CONVICTED IN TEXAS DRUG STING

TEXAS - Twelve people, 11 of whom are African-American, were released from lengthy jail sentences last week in Tulia, Texas, after their convictions were found to be based on the uncorroborated testimony of one police officer.

Last April Texas Judge Ron Chapman concluded that Texas lawman Tom Coleman "falsified reports, misrepresented the nature and extent of his investigative work and misidentified various defendants during his investigation." Coleman will face perjury charges stemming from a separate case later this year.

PROGRAM HELPS AFRICAN GIRLS FIGHT SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN SCHOOLS

NAIROBI - Girls in African schools often face sexual harassment, such as having their grades lowered if they refuse the sexual advances of a male teacher, says Prof. Penina Mlama, executive director of the Nairobi-based Forum for African Women Educationalists (FAWE).

But even though schemes such as FAWE's "Tuseme" ("Speak Out") scheme is helping to protect girls in six African countries, Mlama says that sexual harassment is still "a very, very serious problem indeed."

Sieanyene "Kim" Bowman
City News Staff

It was a rainy and cold day and a hundred plus Liberians and concerned people gathered in Dag Hammarskjold Park across from the United Nations headquarters in Manhattan on June 20, 2003 to protest the ongoing civil war in Liberia.

Protesters marched to send a message to President Taylor to step down and establish peace in Liberia. Grandparents held the hands of Liberia's youth and protested. Children as young as seven marched in the rain.

"Taylor must go. Rebels must go. We want peace we want Peace. No more war..." Liberians chanted into the street.

Liberia the oldest independent nation in Africa has been plagued by fourteen years of war. Liberians are exhausted with the nonstop fighting.

The weather did not stop the old and young from coming to support their brothers and sisters being killed in Liberia. More than 300,000 people have been killed in Liberia's civil unrest, which began in 1989.

See Liberians on page 5



(L) Dorsey Hansford and Roberta P. Davies Rashid, VP of ULAA (r)

James F. McGreevey Governor, State of New Jersey
George E. Pataki Governor, State of New York



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Editorial

Court Ruling Validates Need

The recent Supreme Court Decision, which supported the University of Michigan using race as a factor for admission, while objecting to the quantification and point system used, helped to validate that consideration based on race is important.

The Courts have upheld major challenges to equity for minorities not only in admissions to institutions of higher education but also to minority business contracting efforts.

Many organizations and institutions in America filed briefs in support of the University of Michigan including leaders in higher education, business, and the military. A

Despite Affirmative Action, however, African Americans still have to deal disproportionately with inequities in lending practices, housing discrimination, job promotions, and economic opportunities.

Now that the Court has made its decision suggesting that race consideration is needed because of past and current conditions, America needs to send a clear message that we intend to get it right.

In every arena we need to create opportunities, build high expectations, and live up to the promise of affirmative action.

There is nothing more important than the attention needed to improve achievement of African American children in public schools. Likewise, we must continue to build the climate for entrepreneurial growth and help to promote economic self-sufficiency.

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American GIs: collateral damage

By Lloyd Williams

Almost daily now, news reports arrive from Iraq that another American soldier has been killed, whether by a sniper, in a drive-by shooting, by a rocket-propelled grenade or just in an accident. Before long, more of our GIs will have died keeping the peace than did during the war.

For some reason, the TV coverage tends to downplay the human tragedy of this ongoing attrition among coalition troops. And as the body count mounts, the stories invariably give us the new tally, but rarely attach a name or a face to the latest young life lost, as if it were an

insignificant, expected and necessary fallout of the post-Saddam era.

Should soldiers still making the ultimate sacrifice be considered mere collateral damage? Is that what the volunteer Army bargained for in mounting Operation Iraqi Freedom? I doubt that they expected to serve as a badly-outnumbered occupying force, like sitting-ducks for every malcontent inclined to blame Bush for his present predicament. I thought the idea was first, to wrest control from Hussein and his henchmen and second, to hand it over to the long-suffering Iraqi citizens, so they could set up their own democratic state. The first half

*Yeah, the
conglomer-
ates own the
oil now, but at
what cost in
human life on
both sides?*

of that mission was accomplished in a couple of months. Why then the delay in transferring power after liberation, if our original intentions had been honorable?

What have we really accomplished if the Iraqi infrastructure is simply in ruins,

leaving many people suffering, and some desperate enough to take potshots indiscriminately at any Americans? Our soldiers are obviously unwanted by a sizable percentage, if not the majority over there. They are doing a thankless job in a police operation with no prospects for ending any time soon.

Of course, I suspected that it was about securing the oil fields all along. And that greedy corporate interests could care less about the volatile mix of angry, anti-American Iraqis and uniformed, US peacekeepers. Yeah, the conglomerates own the oil now, but at what cost in human life on both sides?

Affirmative action foes played race card in Supreme Court

By, George E. Curry
NNPA

Race played a larger part in the Supreme Court's 5-4 decision Monday to uphold the University of Michigan's law school affirmative action program than most people realize.

Even while rejecting the undergraduate admissions process that automatically awards 20 points to people of color by a vote of 6-3, a majority of the judges ruled that race could still be a factor in admissions as long as it is not given too much weight.

In addition to awarding extra points to underrepresented groups, the undergraduate admissions counselors also automatically awarded 20 points to all scholarship athletes, it provided 20 points to economically disadvantaged White applicants and awarded extra points to applicants from geographically underrepresented areas of Michigan.

The cases were being heard by an institution that has upheld White supremacy throughout most of its existence. Of the nine justices, seven were appointed by Republican presidents.

In 1857, the pre-Civil War court ruled in the Dred Scott decision that slaves were "beings of an inferior order, and altogether unfit to associate with the white race, either in social or political relations; and so far inferior, that they had no rights which the White man was bound to respect."

The "Plessy v. Ferguson" decision in 1896 upheld "separate but equal" facilities for the races. And, it wasn't until 1954, that the Supreme Court

repudiated segregation and ordered the desegregation of public schools in "Brown v. Board of Education." In the "Bakke" case 25 years ago, it ruled that race could be used as a "plus factor" when evaluating college applicants.

Congress, on the other hand, had a much better record, enacting the first Civil

*...CIR only
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affirmative
action pro-
grams that
primarily
benefit people
of color.
Because the
only issue
before the
court per-
tained to
race...*

Rights Act in 1866. Two years later, it passed the 14th Amendment to the constitution, which was ratified to protect former slaves from the wrath of Southern lawmakers. The amendment prevents states from denying or abridging the rights of any citizens and forbids any state from denying any person "life, liberty or property, without due process of law."

In its pleadings, the Center for Individual Rights (CIR),

the Right-wing law group that brought the two suits against the University of Michigan on behalf of rejected White applicants, has turned the 14th Amendment on its head. Instead of protecting African-Americans, as originally designed, CIR has used the 14th amendment to argue, in this case, that White applicants to Michigan were not being afforded equal protection under the law.

They've adopted that tactic even though some Whites with lower grades and test scores than the plaintiffs were admitted to the University of Michigan.

Moreover, as the University of Michigan acknowledges on its Web site, "Every year some White students are admitted with lower test scores and lower GPAs than some minority students who are rejected."

That notwithstanding, the CIR only chose to attack the affirmative action programs that primarily benefit people of color. Because the only issue before the court pertained to race, the justices did not rule on other aspects of the University of Michigan admissions policies that also award extra points.

Of course, if African-Americans were getting as much "preferential treatment" as CIR professes, they would represent more than 8.1 percent of the undergraduate student body and 6.7 percent of the law students.

CIR has attempted to put a soft edge on its crude actions by hijacking the language and tactics of the Civil Rights

Movement, even to the point of claiming they are acting in the spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The fact that nothing could be further from the truth has not prevented them to trying to perpetrate that hoax on the American public.

The Center for Individual Rights has a Right-wing political agenda and they attacked the Michigan programs for political reasons. Lee Colorinos, author of "The Assault on Diversity: An Organized Challenge to Racial and Gender Justice," describes CIR as, "perhaps the most politically extreme of the groups challenging affirmative action, civil rights, and racial equality in the United States today."

CIR is the same group that represented Cheryl Hopwood to get affirmative action outlawed in Texas and brought a similar, though unsuccessful, suit against the University of Washington. Monday's ruling supercedes previous efforts to outlaw affirmative action in Texas and California.

George W. Bush is expected to appoint one and possibly two Supreme Court justices before leaving office. While campaigning for president, he declared that any appointment he makes to the court will be in the mold of Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas, the two most conservative members of the conservative court.

Bush is also pushing through a group of ultra-conservative judges at the lower levels. When they rise through the ranks, Monday's victory may eventually be a fleeting one.

Fleet Launches "Fleet Community Bank" in Newark

NEWARK — Fleet Community Bank, a unit of Fleet Boston Financial, today hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony in Newark to launch the expansion of its unique "bank within a bank" model dedicated to serving the multicultural and multilingual needs of diverse communities.

Located at 70 Adams Street in downtown Newark, this newly designated Fleet Community Bank store is part of a larger strategic initiative created in 1990 and now comprised of 157 stores throughout the Fleet franchise (11% of the Fleet franchise). Of these, 44 Fleet Community Bank stores now serve New Jersey residents.

"Fleet Community Bank represents the best aspects of neighborhood banking with the strength and vast resources of Fleet," said Torrance Childs, President, Fleet Community Bank. "Its success lies in its ability to respond to the needs of the community on a very local level by forming partnerships and creating financial solutions that are relevant to, reflective of and fully immersed in each neighborhood's cultural fabric and unique circumstances. By taking a collaborative approach to the delivery of products, service and guidance,



Cutting the ribbon for the new branch during the ceremonies were (from left) Alethea Batts, Fleet Community Bank senior vice president and district manager; Bernell K. Grier, executive vice president and market manager for FCB in Metro New York and New Jersey; Newark Mayor Sharpe James; Dina Matos McGreevey, First Lady of New Jersey; Anabel De Pinho, assistant vice president and manager of the Adams Street Fleet Community Bank branch; Patrick J. Kelly, senior vice president and Fleet's regional director of Community Development for New Jersey and Pennsylvania; and Abby O'Neill, vice president and senior community relations manager for Fleet in New Jersey.

Fleet Community Bank promotes sustainable growth that is helping communities create and build upon their wealth.

As part of today's celebration, the Fleet Boston Financial Foundation announced a \$10,000 grant for the Pre-College Consortium of Greater Newark at New Jersey Institute of Technology for an investment and financial management program for youths in grades 10-12 in Newark, Irvington and East Orange.

As a special account-opening incentive, customers applying for credit or deposit accounts by June 30, 2003, will

receive a complimentary electronic organizer, while supplies last.

The Fleet Community Bank model has earned national and international recognition as a best practice in neighborhood banking and proven success in community development. Created in 1990 as a seven-branch pilot program designed to meet the banking needs of historically under served low- and moderate-income neighborhoods, Fleet Community Bank has since expanded its model to include more economically and culturally diverse communities and affinity groups. The spe-

cialized "bank within a bank" delivers Fleet's full range of products and services, tailored to individuals and small businesses that have shown a preference to access financial services through organizations that are focused on their unique needs. Customer segments may include women, people of color, recent immigrants, gays and lesbians as well as low- and moderate-income individuals, families and businesses.

Special features of Fleet Community Bank stores include: Financial education workshops and seminars. Stores staffed with local residents who

are multilingual and multicultural, often reflecting the demographics of the local neighborhood stores that provide advice, direct access to products and sales representatives and one-on-one assistance with consumer finance, mortgage, business investment specialists. Expanded language capabilities including Portuguese, Chinese, Vietnamese, French, Korean, Russian and Spanish. Full array of Fleet financial products including basic banking services, checking, credit, small business products and affordable mortgages.

A key component of the Fleet Community Bank model is its collaborative approach," said Bernell Grier, Executive Vice President and Market Manager, Fleet Community Bank. "By forging relationships with the many constituent interests that make up a community - its business concerns, government and community leaders, and economic development agencies - the bank has a group of individuals who can act as partners and advisors. Working closely with these groups, our staff can identify any product or service gaps to a particular customer segment, and seek solutions that provide greater access and convenience to financial services."

Liberians protest for peace at home

continue from page 3

Charles Taylor a former warlord was elected president in 1997. However, Liberians are disappointed due to the lack of stability Taylor as failed to give them. "Since Taylor's government, Liberia has known no peace, and become a violent and lawless land, with deteriorating health care and education," says a Liberian leadership residing in the U.S. "Taylor must go. No more war and all the warlords must go," the demonstrators chanted. President Taylor has been accused of war crimes in neighboring Sierra Leone by the international Special Court.

Just last Tuesday, June 17, Taylor signed a ceasefire agreement with Liberian rebel groups (LURD) Liberian United for Reconciliation and Democracy and (MODEL) Movement for Democracy in Liberia in Accra, Ghana. Taylor agreed to the peace agreement if the UN-backed Special Court in Sierra Leone would drop all charges against him for war crimes.

However, on Friday, Taylor recanted saying he will remain in power until the end of his term in January of 2004 and seek reelection. Like the Abuja Accord, this was not the first time Taylor has broken peace agreements regarding the Liberian crisis.

"Taylor gave us lots of promises during the election and he hasn't delivered the goods. He promised peace and we are asking that he step down. Let Liberians have what they had before. Let children live like children and mothers enjoy their children," says a female demonstrator speaking with disappointment and hurt.

(ULAA) The Union of Liberian Associations in the Americas along with concerned Liberians and others interested are pleading with the U.S. government and UN to help restore democracy in Liberia.

"We need help from the United States, the UN, AU (African Union), EU (European Union), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the international community to help bring an end to the

war and problems in Liberia. Liberia has played her part and now is the time for the U.S. to help," says a Liberian native residing in New Jersey.

Upon hearing that Taylor will not step down, demonstrators marched to the Liberian consulate on 2nd Ave. Some holding the Liberian flag, a replica of the U.S. flag, 11 stripes, one star. People continued singing, "We want peace, Taylor must go, rebels must go. No more war." After a thirty-minute wait, the Liberian Consulate General, Mr. Dorsey Hansford, came downstairs to address the concerned, angry but hopeful people.

"My hands are tired he said, we must find a common ground, ULAA and the Liberian Government must consult and not antagonize," said Mr. Hansford. The Consulate General assured the people that their concerns would be presented to the Liberian government and taken into consideration.

It has been reported that there has been fighting outside the Liberian capital of Monrovia since the weekend. West African peacekeeping forces of about 2,000 troops are expected to be deployed to Liberia once the location of the rebel fractions are confirmed, according to reports by BBC.com. According to allAfrica.com, peace talks are expected to resume in Accra June 26. The UN-backed Court in Sierra Leone has indicted Charles Taylor of war crimes.

The road to peace may be a long journey for Liberians but they are determined not to give up hope. Liberians say they are in desperate need for international intervention now.



Liberian demonstrators rally for peace.

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Diet-Related Diseases Affecting African-American Men

Diet-Related Diseases Affecting African-American Men Major Campaign Urges Men to Eat 9 Servings of Fruits and Vegetables a Day to Reduce Chronic Disease Risk. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Tommy G. Thompson and National Cancer Institute (NCI) Director Andrew von Eschenbach today announced a national campaign to reduce the risk of chronic diseases among African-American men. Launched during National Minority Cancer Awareness Week, April 20-26, the campaign will focus on motivating black men to eat 9 servings of fruits and vegetables a day to reduce their risk for diet-related diseases that disproportionately affect the black community. NCI's campaign to reach African-American men is among four national initiatives launched today by HHS.

"African-American men suffer much higher rates of almost every type of cancer than white men, and they're more likely to have heart disease and high blood pressure," said Secretary Thompson. "These leading causes of death are largely preventable through changes in our lifestyle choices. The 9 A Day campaign will help us to start emphasizing prevention of this epidemic by letting African-American men know the vital importance of eating fruits and vegetables to their overall health."

African American Men Suffer Extreme Health Disparities:

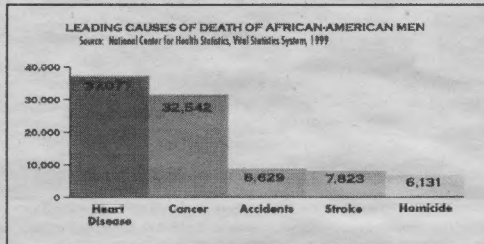
NCI is focusing its efforts on reaching African-American men because they suffer disproportionately from a variety of

health conditions. African-American men:

- Overall, have the highest cancer incidence and mortality rates, as well as the highest rates for certain cancers of any ethnic or racial group.
- Have the highest rates of prostate cancer and high blood pressure in the world.
- Are twice as likely as white men to develop diabetes.
- Develop diabetes and high blood pressure earlier in life than other men, and are more likely to suffer serious side-effects from these diseases.
- Have higher mortality rates from heart disease and obesity than other ethnic groups.

Although black men are among the most seriously affected by diet-related chronic diseases, they have the lowest consumption of fruits and vegetables overall, eating an average of only 3.1 servings a day of the 9 recommended for men by federal nutrition policy. Only 3 percent of black men are even aware that men should eat 9 servings of fruits and vegetables a day for better health. "We must not ignore the excessive burden of cancer in black men," said von Eschenbach. "Black men have the highest rates of prostate, lung, colon, oral, and stomach cancers and are over 140 percent more likely to die from cancer than white men. Since we recognize one-third of all cancers are related to diet, this is one area that demands our attention. By eating 9 servings of fruits and vegetables a day, the risk of diet-related diseases affecting the African-American community can be lowered."

Working Together To



Reduce Health Disparities:

HHS and NCI will work together with several African-American organizations and other health organizations to help get the 9 A Day message out to black men. These organizations include the American Cancer Society (ACS), National Medical Association (NMA), National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ), and Black Entertainment Television (BET). With the participation of these organizations, NCI will be able to communicate the important message about the health disparities facing black men, the link between disease and diet, and practical tips for eating 9 servings of fruits and vegetables a day as an impor-

committed to driving a national, multi-year, multi-faceted communications and education campaign to get the 9 A Day message to African-American men."

"We all need to help motivate black men to eat their 9 A Day today," said Terry Mason, M.D., of Mercy Hospital in Chicago, who speaks to community groups across the country about how diet affects African-American men's health. "Every day, I see patients who could have benefited from eating more fruits and vegetables, but are in my office instead. I am also a black man who eats more than 9 servings of fruits and vegetables a day, so I know it's doable, and I am living the benefits. By changing my diet and getting more physical activity, I've been able to reduce medication and I feel great."

To support the new "eat 5 to 9 servings of fruits and vegetables a day" recommendation, NCI has updated its official campaign logo to emphasize the fact that most Americans should eat more than 5 servings of fruits and vegetables a day. A minimum of 5 servings a day is recommended for children under 6 years. Older children and most women should eat 7 servings of fruits and vegetables a day and teenage boys and most men should eat 9. The "eat 5 to 9 servings of fruits and vegetables a day" recommendation also supports the Dietary Guidelines for Americans 2000 and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Guide Pyramid.

NCI recommends eating a variety of colorful fruits and vegetables - green, yellow/orange, red, blue/purple, and white - to get a broad range of nutrients. Fruits and vegetables contain vitamins, minerals, fiber, and hundreds of disease-fighting phytochemicals that work together to reduce the risk of disease and promote good health. Only fruits and vegetables, not pills or supplements, can provide all of these nutrients together.

"African-American men suffer much higher rates of almost every type of cancer than white men, and they're more likely to have heart disease and high blood pressure"

tant strategy for better health.

"This campaign to reach African-American men is a major priority for NCI," said Lorelei DiSogra, Ed.D., R.D., director of the National 5 A Day for Better Health Program, which promotes the general recommendation for Americans to eat 5 to 9 servings of fruits and vegetables a day. "We are

Health Briefs

BUYING TIME FOR LIVER CANCER PATIENTS

A form of cancer treatment called chemoembolization helps people with liver cancer survive well beyond the six-month average achieved using other treatments.

The treatment is a minimally invasive procedure that delivers chemotherapy directly to a tumor and cuts off the tumor's blood supply.

It can provide liver cancer patients with up to three more years of life and, more importantly, offers them a sustained quality of life. Dr. Jeff Geschwind, section chief of interventional radiology and associate professor of radiology, surgery and oncology at The Johns Hopkins Hospital, says in a news release.

NEW WEAPON AGAINST OVARIAN CANCER

A new drug called ET743 appears to kill ovarian cancer cells according to a preliminary study that was to be presented at the European Society for Medical Oncology conference in Edinburgh, Scotland.

The drug was given to 50 women with advanced ovarian cancer. All had received previous treatment with other cancer drugs, namely cisplatin and taxanes, but later developed progressive cancer. Dr. Gabriella Parma, from the European Institute of Oncology in Milan, Italy, says ET743 has a unique mechanism for killing tumor cells, even in cases where other cancer drugs have failed. She says more studies are needed to understand if these encouraging results actually translate into improved survival for these cancer patients.

COLON CANCER RISK REDUCED BY ASPIRIN, GENE

By lowering levels of a molecule that promotes cell proliferation, both aspirin and a certain genetic variation may reduce a person's risk of developing pre-cancerous growths in the colon, a new study shows.

Arizona researchers found that aspirin aided in the breakdown of polyamines, small nitrogen-rich molecules that are associated with increased cell proliferation and several types of cancer, according to the study published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.



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Published every Wednesday

Nation celebrates the life of Maynard H. Jackson Jr.

Atlanta's first black mayor dies at 65

By Cynthia Post and M. Alexis Scott
Special to the NNPA from The Atlanta Daily World

ATLANTA (NNPA)—The celebration of the life of former Atlanta Mayor Maynard Holbrook Jackson Jr., who died of heart failure, was held at last weekend in Atlanta.

The family requests that instead of flowers, donations be made to The Maynard Jackson Youth Foundation; 100 Peachtree Street, Suite 2250; Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

The best way to remember and honor this hero and trailblazer is to carry on his work, leaders and friends said this week.

Jackson, the city's first African-American mayor, collapsed Monday at Ronald Reagan National Airport in Washington, D.C. He was 65. He was resuscitated at the airport, but suffered a heart attack in the ambulance and died about 9 a.m. at Virginia Medical Center in Arlington, Va., Jackson was a lion of a man, said current Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin.

"He lived his life with courage, compassion and dedication to public service," she said. "His groundbreaking election as mayor in 1973 ushered in a new generation of leaders."

Calling him a great friend and mentor, Franklin said she would miss his counsel and friendship. "Continuing his legacy is really the lives that we live," she said. "He would want us to live our lives on the same principles he did—principles of compassion, of humanity, of inclusion and courage. He'll never be gone from our lives."

Jackson was a great man as well as leader, said W. Bruce Gow, chief operating officer of Jackson Securities LLC. "We respected and loved him, and we will miss him."

Jackson founded the investment banking and brokerage services compa-

ny after completing his third term as Atlanta mayor in 1994.

Jackson was a thinker, who loved people, said Atlanta City Council member C.T. Martin. "He loved this city," he said. "He was kind. He was a great leader."

State Rep. Tyrone Brooks (D-Atlanta) first met Jackson in 1968 when Jackson challenged Herman Talmadge for his U.S. Senate seat. "Maynard Jackson is the granddaddy of affirmative action," he said. "He was truly a legend in his lifetime."

At the age of 35, Maynard Holbrook Jackson Jr. became the youngest and first African-American mayor of the City of Atlanta when he was elected to his first of three four-year terms 30 years ago.

It was a clear turning point in the city's history. Nothing this big had happened since the White race riots of 1906. Jackson's election signaled a changing of the guard in a way that the White business community dreaded and feared.

"Maynard for Mayor," proclaimed his red and yellow bumper stickers. With a tremendous campaign that galvanized the Black community, Jackson rode to victory on a wave of enthusiasm among Black voters. That enthusiasm and loyalty stayed with him until the day he died.

His opponent in that campaign was Mayor Sam Massell, the city's first Jewish mayor, who enjoyed wide support in the Black community. That was until Jackson, then vice mayor, decided to take him on. The campaign turned nasty when Massell used an advertisement that members of the Black community saw as clearly racial.

The ad showed a city sidewalk filled with litter from a below-the-curb viewpoint with the slogan "Atlanta - Too Young to Die." That desperate measure sealed the victory for Jackson in a city



Maynard H. Jackson

that was even then—30 years ago—majority Black.

The feeling of pride and excitement was as strong in the Black community as the feeling of dread and fear was in the White community. It was a new day at City Hall. Jackson brought his commitment to inclusion with him as mayor. No longer would the White business community have total control over the city's finances and, most importantly, over the city's contracts worth millions of dollars.

"His affirmative action program—whether you agree or disagree—became a national model," Black businessman Felker Ward told a meeting of the Rotary Club of Atlanta on Monday.

Jackson also used his might to make changes in the private sector as well. He told the White city fathers that he would move the city's money to other banks if they did not add women and people of color to their boards and officer ranks.

During his second term as mayor, he vowed that the city would have 30 percent participation by people of color in building the new city airport, which opened in 1980 "on time and under budget," as Jackson liked to brag.

His ability to include African-Americans where once they had been excluded created opportunities for many who have seen their fortunes grow during the last 30 years. It also solidified his standing as kingmaker for aspiring politicians who came after him. For those who did not like his strong-arm tactics—primarily the White business community—Jackson was seen as the Godfather who controlled and manipulated other Black politicians and business people. But in the Black community, he was revered and respected as a strong Black man who stood up for the community and helped others realize their dreams.

Jackson served two consecutive terms, from 1974 through 1981. He could have been reelected for life, but the city charter prevented him from serving more than two consecutive terms. He came back in 1989 to be elected to a third term. In his last four years, he led the city in its winning bid for the 1996 Olympics.

It was a wonderful culmination of one of his early campaign slogans, in which he called Atlanta "the next great international city."

The third term proved more problematic, with the advent of AIDS, crack cocaine, homelessness and his own health problems—bypass surgery for blocked arteries. He decided not to seek a fourth term, but worked to support the election of Bill Campbell in 1993. Campbell served two terms followed by the 2001 election of Shirley Franklin, the city's first African-American woman mayor.

Conservatives seek to circumvent Pro-Affirmative action ruling

continued from page 1

Civil rights lawyers contend that the Supreme Court's ruling in the Michigan case supercedes any state-level action similar the one favored by Connerly.

However, like everything else, that issue is likely to be resolved by the courts. "We haven't set a time," Connerly says. "All we're doing now is evaluating the wisdom of doing this and what the process would be and how daunting it would be. So far, all I can say is that if it got on the ballot, it would probably pass handily. You have a number of people who are eager to take the lead on this."

The ballot initiative is just one of several strategies that conservative organizations say they will use to continue their war against affirmative action.

Many have not given up on more lawsuits to challenge the university's law school admissions process, which the court upheld Monday in "Grutter v. Bollinger." In that case, the court held that race can be considered in admissions as long as the university considers each applicant on a case-by-case and there's no "mechanical" system, such as awarding specific points to underrepresented groups, as did Michigan's undergraduate admission program, which the court struck down in "Gratz v. Bollinger."

Moments after the court had issued its rulings, conservative groups were threatening to return to court.

"A school that tries to make this piece-by-piece system work is asking, is inviting further litigation to which they will have to try to prove to a federal judge that they're not running a quota system," Terry Pell, president of the Washington, D.C.-based Center for Individual Rights, the organization that brought the lawsuits, told reporters standing in front of the Supreme Court.

"There will be a defendant in a court in a lawsuit and they will be challenged and they will have to prove that their case-by-case consideration really is case-by-case and is not a mechanical system. They're going to have to demonstrate it to the court."

CIR isn't the only group eager to go to court. "We're constantly in contact with other like-minded groups throughout the country in sharing information. And again if there's a question that's out there that we can do research and find an

actionable issue, we'll be in the case," says Denise Davis, spokeswoman for the conservative Pacifica Legal Foundation in Sacramento, Calif. "We're going to closely monitor university admissions. We're just keeping our ear to the ground and our eyes open about admissions policies that use race as a factor."

Some anti-affirmative groups think that it's only a matter of time before they prevail. "We can expect that several of the justices that were a part of the 5-4 decision on the [law school] case are expected to be retiring in the next few years. We can expect that if they are replaced by more conservative judges, that we could find ways to challenge this in the years ahead," says David Gersten, executive director for the Virginia-based Center for Equal Opportunity. "The speculation from those of us from a conservative perspective like myself is that President Bush will be appointing conservative judges, if not because he wants to see a reversal of this, then certainly because he is a pro-life conservative and more of those who are farther to the right on those types of issues are farther to the right on preferences and discrimination."

Justice Scalia says that campus cultural activities that center around Black and other racial minority activities might also be ripe for lawsuits.

"Tempting targets, one would suppose, will be those universities that talk the talk of multiculturalism and racial diversity in the courts but walk the walk of tribalism and racial segregation on their campuses—through minority-only student organizations, separate minority housing opportunities, separate minority student centers, even separate minority-only graduating ceremonies," Scalia writes.

No one expected conservatives to halt their attack on affirmative action. "I don't think that anybody should fool themselves, the people on the other side of this issue are not going to go away," Ted Shaw, associate director-counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, said on the steps of the Supreme Court shortly after the rulings. "This is a struggle that's going to continue. But it's very clear that the doomsday scenario that was predicted and was hoped for by the opponents of affirmative action has not come today."



By Kam Williams

Judging from the amount of skin which was displayed during the 3rd Annual BET Awards, I suggest that the 'B' in BET be changed to Booty. Or maybe Bizarre.

BET used to stand for Black Entertainment Television back when it was black-owned. But now the network is just a subsidiary of Viacom, the communications conglomerate which also controls CBS, Paramount Pictures, MTV, Nickelodeon, Infinity, Showtime Network, Comedy Central, Blockbuster Video, Simon & Schuster Publishing, the UPN Network, Famous Music Publishing and over 100 movie theaters. And with the station's saving grace, Tavis Smiley, long since fired and nowhere in sight, the festivities degenerated into an embarrassing excuse for bizarre behavior, the exhibition of female appendages and the shameless promotion of Viacom products.

The evening was hosted by Mo'Nique, star of UPN's The

3rd Annual BET Awards

marked by shameless & bizarre behavior

Parkers, who reminded the audience to buy her new book (published by Simon and Schuster). Her hawking was par for the course as nearly every other presenter and recipient went out of their way to make a sales pitch for their latest project.

Still, what was most memorable about the evening was its unending parade of plunging cleavage and booty-accenting outfits. Rapper Snoop Dogg even staged a fashion show which featured attractive "honeys" in hot-pants he urged to "Shake some!" as they strutted down the runway. They obliged by grinding their crotches for the camera.

Another odd moment came after Steve Harvey delivered a heartfelt speech about how important James Brown's 'I'm

Black and I'm Proud' had been to him and to the psyche of all African-Americans. But then the introduction was immediately reduced to some sort of sick joke when Michael Jackson suddenly emerged to hand the Lifetime Achievement Award to the Godfather of Soul.

mizing profits?

Queen Latifah was crowned Best Actress, but unless I missed something, the Best Actor category was passed over

for some unexplained reason.

Security was tight that night in Hollywood to prevent any East Coast-West Coast or other gangsta-related flare-ups.

3rd Annual Bet Awards the best so far

The biggest names in showbiz came out last Tuesday for the 3rd Annual BET Awards. Black people showed how to have fun, entertain and do it all with class regardless of Lil' Kim's cleavage. The highlight of the evening was a surprise appearance by Michael Jackson who presented James Brown with the Lifetime Achievement Award. Other highlights of the evening was performances by 50 Cent, Beyonce & Jay-Z, Snoop, Ashanti, India Arie, Yolanda Adams & Donnie McClurkin & R Kelly. Rapstress Foxy Brown to my surprise was fully clothed, wearing a cream pant suit and looking like a lady.

Complete list of 2003 BET Awards Winners:

Best New Artist - 50 Cent
 Best Male Hip Hop Artist - 50 Cent
 Best Male Athlete - Kobe Bryant
 Best Group - B2K
 Best Collaboration - Snoop and Pharrell for "Beautiful"
 Best Female Athlete - Serena Williams
 Best Female Hip Hop Artist - Missy Elliott
 Best Female R&B Artist - India Arie
 Best Gospel Artist - Yolanda Adams
 Best Actress - Queen Latifah
 Viewer's Choice Award - B2K
 Male R&B - Jaheim and R. Kelly (Tie)
 Video Of The Year - Erykah Badu for "Love of My Life"



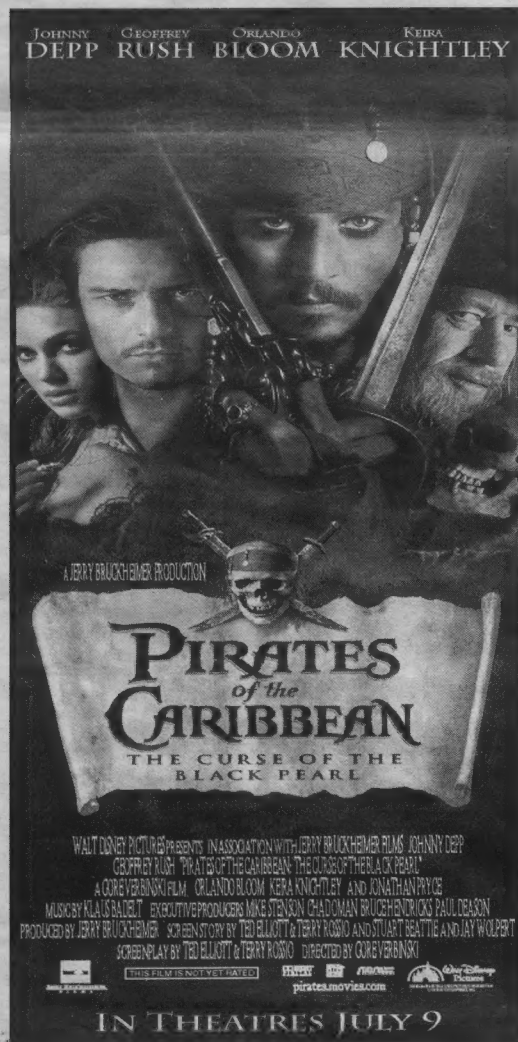
Lil' Kim

I suppose I have to talk about the awards themselves, too, though they seemed secondary, if not tertiary to the rest of the goings-on. 50 Cent and B2K were the only ones to go home with two trophies, so I guess they were the night's big winners. 50 Cent was recognized as the Best Male Hip-Hop Artist and as the Best New Artist, while R&B crooners B2K won for Best Group and were voted Viewers Choice in a live poll conducted during the telecast. In his acceptance speech, a gracious Mr. Cent remarked that, "I want to thank myself and Vivica A. Fox for wearing that dress."

Presenter Lil' Kim, who's been in the news lately because she had a quarter of a million in jewelry stolen from her luggage, didn't address the theft but said, "Wazzup, Vivica! Hey, baby!" before accepting the Male Athlete of the Year on behalf of an AWOL Kobe Bryant.

In fact, I noticed that many people onstage were playing to Ms. Fox, almost as if she were the only one in attendance at the packed Kodak Theater.

Another weird interlude began when Bob Johnson, who sold BET to Viacom, appeared in order to present a Humanitarian Award to Magic Johnson. First, the refined billionaire was anything but believable when he was gushing over the scantily-clad "video-hos" surrounding him. Then, diminutive, bespectacled Bob looked like Urkel standing next to Magic. And the topping on the cake came as Magic's thanked him with, "You've made it happen for black folks." Exactly how, I wondered. By selling his controlling interest in BET stock to a Fortune 500



E Briefs
 entertainment news
 — Kim Bowman

Whitney and Bobby to star in movie



People magazine is reporting that Whitney Houston and Bobby Brown are in talks to take on their first big-screen project together. The film is called "Buffy and Charlie." And in it they will play musicians who are also gangsters. Coming on the heels of their trip to Israel where Houston and Brown spent a week with a religious

group called the Black Hebrews, Brown says the two will "be singing, robbing, stealing - a lot of things people might not want to see us do."

Rodney king pleads innocent and records rap album



Rodney King pleaded innocent to 3 misdemeanor charges on Thursday, after he slammed his SUV into a utility pole in April. King revealed that he was working on his autobiography & a rap album. King said his album is titled "Rodney King, The Living Legend." King didn't release details on the album but this is not his first foray into music. In 1997, King founded the Straight Alta-Pazz Recording Company & released "California Grindin'" by rap group Stranded.



Mos Def goes to ESPN

Mos Def will host a new Friday night series on ESPN2 called "The Block Party," presented by Dodge, running for 9 weeks throughout the summer. Shows will feature a variety of segments that are focused on the urban athletic lifestyle, including Streetball: The AND 1 Mix Tape Tour; The Life; Friday Night Fights and The Barbershop Segment. The show will feature athletes and celebrities in hip hop, sports, and entertainment. The Block Party premieres Friday, June 20th at 7 PM EST.

Kam's Kapsules

For movies opening July 2, 2003

BIG BUDGET FILMS

Legally Blonde 2: Red, White & Blonde



(PG-13 for sex-related humor) Reese Witherspoon returns as Harvard-trained bimbo for sequel set in DC, as pretty in pink attorney and advocate for animal rights. Also reprising their roles are Luke Wilson, Jennifer Coolidge (Stifler's mom of American Pie), Jessica Cauffiel, Alana Ubach and Tane McClure. Added to the cast are Sally Field,

Bob Newhart and Regina King.

Sinbad: Legend of the Seven Seas



(PG for action adventure, mild epithets and some sensuality) Animated adaptation of one of the 1001 Arabian Nights tales, this about the misadventures of a sailor who encounters an assortment of monsters while on a quest to clear his name. Featuring the voice of Brad Pitt in the title role with that of Catherine Zeta-Jones-Douglas, Michelle Pfeiffer and Dennis Haysbert in the supporting cast.

Terminator 3

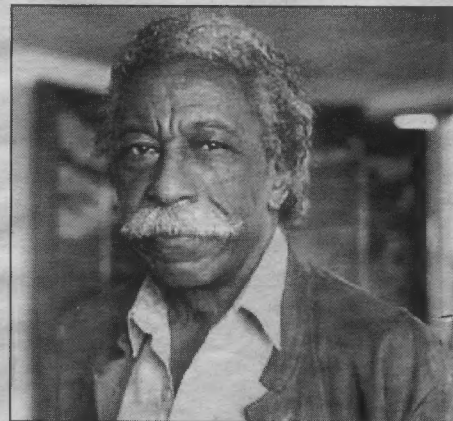


(R for sci-fi and action violence, profanity and nudity): Arnold is back, a decade later, and now up against T-X, a sexy sophisticated, state-of-the-art cyborg played by Kristanna Loken. Schwarzenegger and veterinarian Claire Danes have only three hours to save the world in an epic battle with androids pitting human versus artificial intelligence.

Half Past Autumn: The Art of Gordon Parks

June 25 - August 31, 2003

NEWARK — A comprehensive retrospective of the works of preeminent American artist Gordon Parks, including his photographs, books, music, film and poetry, opened at The Newark Museum on June 25, 2003. Organized and first presented at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, DC in September of 1997, Half Past Autumn: The Art of Gordon Parks has toured the country for the past six years. The Newark Museum is the final venue in the New York/New Jersey metropolitan area; visitors can view Parks's extensive body of work until August 31, 2003. On July 9, Mr. Parks is the honored guest at The Newark Black Film Festival's screening of the documentary about his life, entitled Half Past Autumn: The Works & Life of Gordon Parks.



THE NEWARK MUSEUM PRESENTS

The 29th Annual Black Film Festival

June 25 - July 30, 2003

NEWARK — The 29th Annual Newark Black Film Festival blends film classics with offerings from emerging independent filmmakers that reflect the full impact of the black experience in America. The festival's history points to a progressive approach to screening thought provoking movie fare, leading to lively discussion among community residents, and the artists who write, produce and direct the contents. Free of charge, his year's format continues to provide a unique opportunity for people from everyday walks of life to voice their views face to face with established professionals as well as up-and-coming artists in the industry. The Festival opened Wednesday, June 25, at 7:00 p.m., and will continue to show screenings every Wednesday thereafter through July 30, 2003.



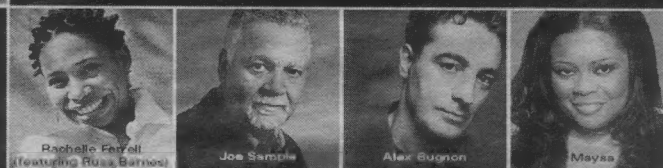
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Prison rates for blacks go up

Continued from page 1

has a lot to do with drug policy and how the criminal justice system handles drug-related crimes. "When you look at drug crimes, such as those that deal with crack cocaine, you will see most of the people arrested are Black, but cocaine and marijuana are both diffused," he says.

According to a report by the U.S. Sentencing Commission on Cocaine and Federal Sentencing Policies, sentencing for crack cocaine offenders is six times longer than that for cocaine offenders with equivalent drug quantities. The report also observes that defendants trafficking an equivalent amount of crack cocaine received an average of 64 months, or slightly more than five years. On the other hand, those found trafficking cocaine received an average sentence of only 13 months.

Donald Braman, a researcher for Yale University, calculates that 75 percent of Black males in Washington, D.C., can expect to go to prison or jail during their lifetime. This is also true for other urban areas, according to Mauer. Racial and ethnic disparities for other groups—African-American women, Hispanics and Native Americans—while not as severe as those for Black males, are nonetheless well above the national average and have been rising significantly in recent years. "The jarring contrast of the wealthiest society in history maintaining the greatest use of imprisonment presents a clear indication of troubling circumstances," says Mauer. "We can debate the causes of these developments and appropriate remedies, but what is clear is that the problem is one deserving significant and policy maker attention."

The Sentencing Project report made

some specific recommendations for society. "We need to look at building strong families and communities and also we need to look at better training, better health care and so on and if we look at those areas we can fix the crime problem," Mauer says. "In the criminal justice system we need to re-orient how we do things because we've invested in punishments and just punishing someone doesn't change their life."

In other reports released by the group, most re-arrests take place within the first year. In a study of 272,111 inmates, approximately two-thirds of all prisoners released in 1994, indicated that first year was most crucial in determining whether a newly released individual would recidivate. Nearly one-third of released offenders were rearrested within six months, and 44 percent within the first year. The first year totals represent two-thirds of all the cases of rearrest over a three-year period. By the second year, 50 percent had been rearrested and by the end of the third year, 67.5 percent had been rearrested.

Drug convictions have fueled the dramatic rise in imprisonment rates, researchers found. In 1980, prisons and jails held about 40,000 inmates for drug offenses. That figure has increased more than ten fold to about 450,000 today, nearly a quarter of all inmates, according to the report. "Laws have gotten a lot stricter for Black males especially if you look at cases where drugs are involved," he says. "But if we were to clamp down on white-collar crimes, you'd see more Whites in jails than Blacks, so it goes to show where the emphasis is being placed."

Thomas uses Douglass quotes

Continued from page 1

out the meddling of university administrators.

Because I wish to see all students succeed whatever their color, I share in some respect, the sympathies of those who sponsor the type of discrimination advanced by the University of Michigan Law School."

Thomas's critics are outraged that he is trying to use one of Douglass' lesser known quotes to defend his opposition to affirmative action.

"When you consider the many quotes you could have used from Fredrick Douglass, he clearly really looked for one that would suit his purposes and decided to omit the more salient ones and it's reflective of the skewed logic that he uses in his opinion," says Barbara Amwine, executive director of the Washington, D.C.-based Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law.

Joseph Hopkins, a civil rights attorney in Pasadena, Calif., agrees. "He takes Frederick Douglass' comments out of context and ignores the fact that Douglass fought for integration, abolition of slavery and equal rights for Blacks all his life," says Hopkins, author of a new book, "I Will Not Apologize."

Keith Watters, a former president of the National Bar Association, says he was struck by a section of Thomas' opinion that tried to place a heavier burden on historically Black colleges and universities.

"In 2000 at Morehouse College, one of the most distinguished HBCs in the Nation, only 0.1 percent of the student body was White, and only 0.2 percent was Hispanic... And at Mississippi Valley State University, a public HBC, only 1.1 percent of the freshman class in 2001 was White. If there is a 'critical mass' of Whites at these institutions, then

'critical mass' is indeed a very small proportion," Thomas writes.

"It follows, therefore, that an HBC's assessment that racial homogeneity will yield educational benefits would similarly be given deference," he says. "An HBC's rejection of White applicants in order to maintain racial homogeneity seems permissible, therefore, under the majority's view of the Equal Protection Clause... Contained within today's majority opinion is the seed of a new constitutional justification for a concept I thought long and rightly rejected—racial segregation."

Watters rejects that view of Black colleges, which were founded because White colleges would not accept African-Americans.

"You look at Justice Thomas and you always wonder where he's coming from," says Watters, a lawyer in Washington, D.C. "He says that since it's okay for Black schools to educate Blacks without Whites, then it should be okay for White schools should educate Whites without Blacks—he sounds like a segregationist."

Watters adds, "I think that this is a desperate attempt to explain himself, and I think the only people who are really listening are primarily White conservatives. He's playing to that audience and to himself, and I think he believes this stuff at this point."

Hopkins, the California attorney, isn't as kind. "Clarence Thomas is the chief house slave, but he should be fired because he can't do his job—he can't keep us down," says Hopkins. "He's the house slave appointed to keep the field slaves and the yard slaves down, but he can't do it. It just doesn't work."

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All bids are subject to the provisions of Chapter 2, revised Ordinance of the City of Newark, Sec. 2:4-14(A) entitled, "Contracts with City and stipulations as to prevailing wages and working conditions."

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Liners, Garbage Bags

No bidder may submit more than one bid. Proposals shall be submitted in a sealed envelope, plainly marked to indicate the subject of the proposal. Contract documents, including surety requirement, may be obtained at DIVISION OF CENTRAL PURCHASE 828 BROAD STREET, 3rd. FLOOR, NEWARK, N.J. Mailed bids will be accepted and will be opened at the time all sealed bids are received and announced.

All bids are subject to the provisions of Chapter 2, revised Ordinance of the City of Newark, Sec. 2:4-14(A) entitled, "Contracts with City and stipulations as to prevailing wages and working conditions."

Contract or contracts will be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, the right being reserved to reject any and all bids and to waive informalities therein and to award contract or contracts for the whole or any part thereof.

The City reserves the right to increase or decrease the amount of the contract to cover actual requirements needed for the contract period.

Bidders must comply with chapter 33, P.L. 1977 requiring stockholders and partnership names.

Companies/firms awarded contracts for goods, services and construction will be required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975 C. 127 (NJAC) 17:27.

Carolyn McKnight, CPM, RPPO, QPA
City Purchasing Agent

Date Published: July 2, 2003

Fee: \$31.50

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received by the Housing Authority of the City of New Brunswick for Construction of new office space with renovations to existing structures.

Bids for the above will be received by the Housing Authority at its offices located at 65 Morris Street, 2nd Floor, New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901, at 11:00 a.m. prevailing time, Tuesday, July 22, 2003.

Plans, specifications, bid forms, and other contract documents may be obtained at the above office upon payment of a non-refundable deposit of \$100.00. Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c127, (N.J.A.C. 17:27)

A bid bond in the amount of 10% of the bid amount, but not more than \$20,000.00 shall be required to satisfy the bid surety requirements issued by a N.J. firm approved and listed in U.S. Treasury Circular No. 570. In addition a Consent of Surety in accordance with N.J.S. 40A-11-22 shall accompany the bid. The successful bidder will also be required to produce 100% payment and performance bond prior to the issuance of a notice to proceed.

A pre-bid conference will be held in the Authority Community Room, 37 Van Dyke Avenue, New Brunswick, New Jersey, on Friday, July 11, 2003 at 10:00 a.m.

The Authority reserves the right to waive any informalities in or reject any or all of the bids on any basis without disclosure of a reason. The failure to make such a disclosure shall not result in accrual of any right, claim, or cause of action by any unsuccessful bidder against the Authority.

Bids shall remain in force for a period of thirty (30) days after the date of the opening thereof.

John Clarke
Executive Director N.B.H.A.

\$29.92

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

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Calendar

Community

Project Re-Direct/ Youth & Family Services is looking for people who are interested in becoming a child's mentor. For more info call Sharon D. Berry at 1-888-868-9697.

Youth Cinema Schedule Mondays at 10:30 a.m. at the Newark Public Library & Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m. at the Newark Museum.

ONGOING — SEPT 8

Jersey City — Liberty Science Center presents an exhibit of Sue, a Trannosaurus Rex. For more info call 201-200-1000.

ONGOING — OCT 16

Newark — Newark Downtown District will host Common Greens Farmer's Market from 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. in Military Park. For more info call 973-733-9333.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 2

Youth Cinema will show *Whitewash*, *Children's Stories from Africa*, Volume III. For more info call 973 596-6550.

MONDAY, JULY 7 — 11

Newark — Rutgers Newark begins Girls Basketball Camp at Rutgers' Golden Dome Athletic Center from 8:30 am - 3:30 pm. For more info call Kevin Morris at 973 353-5474 ext. 228.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 9

Cranford — Union County College located at 1033 Springfield Ave. will offer a Microsoft Excel XP workshop. For more info call 908-709-7600.

SATURDAY, JULY 12

Newark — NJ Historical Society will host a Genealogy Workshop from 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m., 52 Park Place. For more info call 973-596-8500.

SUNDAY, JULY 13

Atlantic City — The 12th Annual RNS Show comes to la Casa Del Mare featuring designs from top interior and exterior designers from 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. For more info call 609-345-8182 or 609-822-8734.

TUESDAY, JULY 15 — AUG

Newark — The Newark Adult Basketball League open to Newark residents only at Boylan Recreation Center at 916 S. Orange Ave. Games will start at 7:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m. & 7:30 pm on Tuesdays & Thursdays. Deadline to accept rosters is July 11. For more info call Rookie Johnson at 973-733-8947 or 973-371-6418.

MONDAY, JULY 14 — JULY 18

Newark — Scarlet Raiders Boys summer basketball camp ages 7 to 18 at Rutgers Golden Dome Athletic Center begins in July. First session is from July 14 - 18 and the second session is August 4 - 8. For more info call Joe Loughran of Scarlet Raiders at 973-353-5474 ext. 223.

SATURDAY, JULY 19

Newark — NJ Historical Society will host Making Tin Ware Family Program from 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. & 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. at 52 Park Place. For more info call 973 596-8500.

MONDAY, JULY 21 — 25

Madison — SupperTennis, a tennis day camp for boys & girls ages 5-17 will meet at Drew University. For more info, contact Ira Miller at 973-408-3115.

FRIDAY, JULY 25

Trenton — The Commission of Higher Education will host a monthly meeting at 10:00 a.m. For more info call 609-292-4310.

SATURDAY, JULY 26

Newark — Newark Public Library will host Jersey Bounce from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., 5 Washington St. For more info call 973-705-8253.

New Brunswick — Rock For Children presents The Robert Murdock Band to help raise awareness about child abuse at the Old Bay Restaurant, Church Street at 10:00 p.m. For more info call 732 246-3111.

ONGOING — AUGUST 28

NJPAC presents Absolut Sounds of the City with various musical performances every thursday from 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Heartbeat

ONGOING

St. Barnabas Health Care System will offer several maternity and parent education classes at Newark Beth Israel, Clara Maass and St. Barnabas. For more info please call each hospital directly for class schedules, dates, costs and to register. Clara Maass-Women's Health Center at 973-450-2890; Newark Beth Israel-Parent Education at 973-926-2642 and St. Barnabas - Women's Health Department at 973-322-5360.



WEDNESDAY, JULY 16 — Actor Brock Peters will be the guest speaker for the film, *The Pawnbroker* at The Newark Black Film Festival at the Newark Museum. For more info call 973-596-6550.

Newark — Beth Israel Medical Center offers free program, "Look Good, Feel Good" for women dealing with the effects of Cancer treatment and need assistance with their make-up and hair styling. For more info call 973-926-7609.

TUESDAY, JULY 17

Newark — St. James Hospital will host a diabetes support group at 7:00 p.m. This group meets every third tuesday of each month. For more info call 973-877-2885.

MONDAY, JULY 23

Belleville — Clara Maass Hospital will host a free seminar on shoulder and joint pain at 10:30 a.m. For more info call 973-450-2213.

Business

ONGOING

Newark — The Women's Center of Essex County College is sponsoring a series of seminars, support groups during Spring 2003 Semester. For more info call 973-877-3395.

MONDAY, JULY 7 — AUG 5

Newark — Community Colleges and New Jersey City University Partner to offer Teacher Education Program, a new alternative route Teacher Education Program. Beginning July 7 the Graduate program will run in two phases. For more info call 609 392-3434

WEDNESDAY, JULY 9

Newark — Newark Technology Group will host a networking breakfast at 8:00 a.m. at Theatre Square Grill. For more info call 973 623-9464.

New York — Professional Women in Construction presents a trans-

portation breakfast forum on updates on construction & major projects from 8:00am - 10:00 a.m. at the Yale Club, 44th St. & Vanderbilt Ave. For more info & registration, call 212-486-7745.

Artz

ONGOING — AUGUST 14

Newark — Newark Museum presents *Jazz in the Garden* with Jazz musicians every thursday during lunchtime from 12:15 1:45 p.m.

ONGOING — AUGUST 31

Newark — The Newark Museum presents the film, *Half Past Autumn: The Art of Gordon Parks*, a legendary American Artist. For more info call 973-596-6550.

ONGOING — SEPT 7

New York — American Museum of Natural History presents *Chocolate*, an exhibition that explores the legends, history of chocolate. For more info call 212-769-5800.

TUESDAY, JULY 8

New Brunswick — The State Theatre presents Pat Benatar in concert at 8:00 p.m. For more info call 877-STATE-11.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 9

Newark — Artist Gordon Parks will be the honored guest at the Newark Black Film Festival's screening of the documentary about his life, entitled *Half Past Autumn: The Works & Life of Gordon Parks*. For more info call 973-596-6550.

Newark — Aljira Host Dancing in the Park from Wed-Fri, 12:00 p.m.-

6:00 p.m. and Sat, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at Aljira, 591 Broad Street. For more info call 973-622-1600.

THURSDAY, JULY 10

Mahwah — The Commerce Bank Summer Concert Series comes to Ramapo College at 8:00pm. For more info call 201-684-7115.

THURSDAY, JULY 10 — 20

Manasquan — August Wilson's *Jitney* will play at Algonquin Arts Theatre. The film covers the black experience in Twentieth Century America. For more info call the Algonquin Arts Theatre at 732- 528-9211.

SATURDAY, JULY 12

New York — B.B. King's presents Maxi Priest in concert at 8:00 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. \$25 adv \$30 DOS. For more info call Ticketmaster at 212-307-7171 or 212-997-4555.

SATURDAY, JULY 19 -20

New York — B.B. King's Blues Club presents the Neville Brothers in concert at 8:00 p.m. For more info call Ticketmaster at 212-307-7171

SATURDAY, JULY 26

Newark — Newark Public Library will host Poet On from 11:00am - 1:00 p.m. For more info call 973-705-8253.

Religion

ONGOING

Newark — Greater Service Fellowship Church invites you to Sunday morning service at 9:00 a.m. and Wednesday Bible study at 7:00 p.m. If you have questions, come get the answers. For more info call 973-848-1711.

MONDAY, JULY 7 — 11

Parsippany — Phillips Metropolitan Christian Methodist Episcopal Church in Newark will host it's annual Conference at the Hilton Hotel. For more info call Diana Jones at 973 625-7768.

Mail or email your calendar events and photographs at least two weeks in advance to:

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111 Mulberry St., TH-C
Newark, NJ 07102
OR
Editorial@CityNews
Network.com

High Court upholds Affirmative Action

Continued from page 1

when the court outlawed quotas but held that race can be a factor in college admissions.

Conservatives had hoped the court would reverse its decision in "University of California v. Bakke" and ban all considerations of race in higher education, employment and government contracting. But in the law school case, five justices—Sandra Day O'Connor, John Paul Stevens, David H. Souter, Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Stephen G. Breyer—ruled to the contrary. Dissenting were Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist, Justices Clarence Thomas, Antonin Scalia and Anthony M. Kennedy.

Writing for the majority, O'Connor said the Constitution "does not prohibit the law school's narrowly tailored use of race in admissions decisions to further a compelling interest in obtaining the educational benefits that flow from a diverse student body."

The court noted that a law school degree is often the springboard for leadership positions in America.

"Individuals with law degrees occupy roughly half of the state governorships, more than half of the seats in the United States Senate, and more than a third of the seats in the United States House of Representatives," the majority opinion observes. When it comes to highly selective law schools, such as Michigan, the pattern is even more striking, the court says.

"A handful of these schools account for 25 of the 100 United States Senators, 74 United States Courts of Appeals judges, and nearly 200 or the more than 600 United States District Court judges," the majority justices note.

They concluded, "In order to cultivate a set of leaders with legitimacy in the eyes of the citizenry, it is necessary that the path to leadership be visibly open to talented and qualified individuals of every race and ethnicity."

Brandy Yolanda Johnson, a recent graduate of the University of Michigan Law School, is one of those qualified individuals who benefited from affirmative action.

"It has been very important to study law in an integrated environment," she explains. "By having a

meaningful number of other minority students around me, their presence went a long way toward breaking silence and tokenism in the classroom. It broadens your perspective. To study law divorced of those elements, it severely limits the quality of education."

Shanta Driver, a law student at Detroit's Wayne State University, also is celebrating, but says affirmative action supporters must remain on guard.

The Supreme Court's decision to strike down the University of Michigan's undergraduate affirmative action program in "Gratz v. Bollinger" leaves the door open for a new series of segregationist legal and social attacks," says Driver, national spokesperson for the Coalition to Defend Affirmative Action By Any Means Necessary (BAMN), which has led several student marches for affirmative action. "We cannot allow minority student enrollment to drop in any undergraduate university program. We pledge to fight relentlessly for integration and equality throughout American society. The most decisive battles lay ahead. We will not rest until we have won."

President Bush issued a statement in which he says, "I applaud the Supreme Court for recognizing the value of diversity on our nation's campuses. Diversity is one of America's greatest strengths. Today's decisions seek a careful balance between the goal of campus diversity and the fundamental principle of equal treatment under law."

Bush made no mention of his opposition to both Michigan's undergraduate and law school affirmative action programs or his decision to have the solicitor general appear before the Supreme Court to oppose both programs. Bush had characterized the plans as "quota" programs, a description the Supreme Court explicitly rejected in its majority law school opinion.

Although critics of affirmative action often try to project an image of unqualified African-Americans gaining admission to universities because of their race, the majority opinion notes: "...The Law School frequently accepts nonminority applicants with grades and test scores lower than underrepresented applicants (and other nonminority applicants) who are rejected."

The court praised this

"flexible" approach and observes that there are educational benefits for all students studying in a diverse setting.

"Just as growing up in a particular region or having particular professional experiences is likely to affect an individual's views, so too is one's own, unique experience or being a racial minority in a society, like our own, in which race unfortunately still matters."

Civil rights activists were overjoyed with the outcome from the conservative court. In fact many, including Shaw, of the LDF and a former law school professor at Michigan, had been predicting all along that the court would rule as it did.

Ralph G. Neas, president of the People for the American Way, says: "This case was about the value of a diverse educational environment in a country where diversity was once unwelcome. By upholding affirmative action, this court has protected opportunities for millions of Americans who are still victimized by the lingering effects of discrimination."

Kurt Schmoke, dean of Howard University's law school, says: "I know that some people will focus on the fact that the Supreme Court struck down the practices of affirmative action [in the undergraduate decision] but that's not the broadest issue—the issue is that race can be considered as a factor in the admissions process and there were people arguing that it shouldn't be used."

"To me, the fact that they reaffirmed that principle means that universities do not have to adopt neutral admissions policies and the court was simply saying that race can still be considered to fight against the vestiges of past discrimination and to assure equal opportunity."

Not surprisingly, the head of the Center for Individual Rights, the Right-wing group that brought both suits, also claimed victory.

"Taken together, the decisions today raise the bar higher and make it more difficult and more legally uncertain for schools to use race," says Terry Pell, president of CIR. He adds, "I think what we're seeing today is the beginning of the end of race preferences."

Because the Court ruled 6-3 to strike down the undergraduate program that used a scoring system, CIR claims victory.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice of Availability Port Imperial Inter-modal Ferry Terminal Environmental Assessment

Notice is hereby given that the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Port Imperial Inter-modal Ferry Terminal is being made available for public review and comment. This document examines the social-economic, transportation, and environmental impacts associated with relocation of the existing New York Waterway ferry operation from its current location near Pershing Road to a new terminal to be constructed by NJ TRANSIT approximately 1,500 feet to the north. The new terminal will provide opportunities for transfers between the ferry and a new station of the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail Transit system now under construction in Weehawken, New Jersey. The alternatives examined in the EA included the "No Build Alternative" and a "Build" alternative incorporating designs for the terminal structure, supporting marine platform, estuary garden, waterfront pedestrian walkway, and dredging and disposal alternatives. Alternative locations for the siting of the terminal, including uplands sites, were examined. The EA also documents the work undertaken to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Section 106 work identifies historic properties, assesses their eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, evaluates the impact of the alternatives under consideration on eligible or listed properties, and considers alternatives to avoid or minimize any adverse effects.

A. Description of Proposed Relocation of the Ferry Terminal:

The US Federal Highway Administration, New Jersey Department of Transportation and NJ TRANSIT are proposing to construct a new state-of-the-art inter-modal ferry terminal in Weehawken, Hudson County, New Jersey. The proposed action is to relocate, approximately 1,500 feet north, the existing ferry terminal facility and operations to a new terminal facility, situated to link the ferry service with the northernmost waterfront station of the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail Transit now under construction.

This ferry project is included in the Port Imperial South development plan and adds critical capacity to the over-subscribed traps-Hudson public transportation network. With the absence of PATH service to lower Manhattan since September 11, 2001, commuters have had fewer transit options and have been experiencing greater congestion on existing bus and rail lines to Manhattan. Ferry service has emerged as a viable option because it addresses the lack of capacity without requiring costly new rail lines or roads, and provides reliable service largely unaffected by traffic congestion or rail system delays. Also, ferry services can be implemented quickly and can be built up incrementally based on demand.

Key project elements include:

- Construction of a terminal;
- Construction of the platform to support the terminal;
- Installation of vessel mooring facilities for loading and unloading passengers (floats, docks and ramps);
- Dredging of 150,000 cubic yards on Hudson River sediment with upland management of sediments; and
- Creation of wetland/estuary garden.

This project will require permits from the Army Corps of Engineers and NJ Department of Environmental Protection.

B. Environmental Assessment Availability

The Environmental Assessment is available at the following locations for your review:

New Jersey Transit Corporate Headquarters
One Penn Plaza East
Newark, New Jersey 07105-2246
Contact: Steven M. Jurow
Senior Director, Environmental Services
Telephone: (973) 491-7210

NJ Department of Transportation
1035 Parkway Avenue
Ewing, NJ 08625-0600
Contact: Richard J. Gimello
Director, Maritime Resources
Telephone: (609) 538-4913

US Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration
840 Bear Tavern Road, Suite 310
West Trenton, NJ 08628-1019
Contact: David Hawk Program Operations Director
Telephone: (609) 637-4213

Additional Locations:

- Township of Weehawken, Public Library, 49 Hauxhurst Avenue, Weehawken, NJ
- Hudson County Administration Building, 595 Newark Avenue, Jersey City, NJ
- Weehawken Municipal Building, 400 Park Avenue, Weehawken, NJ

NJ TRANSIT will hold a public hearing during the official 30-day comment period. A Spanish-speaking translator will be present at the public hearing to answer any questions and/or receive comments on the project. All public comment is important and is welcomed until the close of the comment period on August 26, 2003. The public hearing will be held on:

DATE: August 11, 2003
TIME: 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM and from 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
LOCATION: Sheraton Suites at Lincoln Harbor
500 Harbor Boulevard
Weehawken, New Jersey

If the allotted time is not sufficient to accommodate all public comments, the hearing will be extended until all commentators have been heard.

Any written comments on the Environmental Assessment should be sent to: Mr. David Hawk, Program Operations Director, Federal Highway Administration, at the above address. All written comments should be legible and include your name (individual and/or organization) and address. Comments may be sent by e-mail to ferry-terminal@njtransit.com for receipt no later than midnight August 26, 2003.

Your interest and assistance in this review are greatly appreciated. Should you require special accommodations or require sign language interpreters or have any questions, please contact Mr. Jurow at (973) 491-7210.

George D. Warrington
Executive Director
New Jersey Transit Corporation